

Circuit

A monthly employee publication of the Bonneville Power Administration

New eyes in the sky can spot trouble before it happens



Chief helicopter pilot Wayne Noonan checks out the new Forward Looking Infrared Radar system. The screen monitors appear through the helicopter window (top). The patrol observer who flies with the pilot monitors the screens and controls the FLIR turret suspended below the nose of the helicopter. The inset shows the monitors from inside the helicopter. Note the heat sensor outline (bottom) of a worker who is at the rear of the hangar 50 yards behind the helicopter.

Photos by Jack Odgaard

The newest technology for BPA in the field is its FLIR Thermo-cam unit. The advanced eyes in the sky are mounted on the front of a BPA Bell Jet Ranger helicopter. FLIR stands for forward looking infrared. The unit has two cameras and is mounted in a turret below the helicopter nose. One camera is infrared color and the other is a color video camera. An aircraft patrol observer operates the unit. The controls allow the observer to rotate the turret 360 degrees.

The system has a digital operation and can read temperatures on the surface it aims at to within one-tenth of a degree Fahrenheit.

BPA has had a FLIR system for several years, says Wayne Noonan, chief helicopter pilot. But the older system was black and white and couldn't detect the detail of heat that the newer color system can.

"The main reason we have it is to look for hot spots on power lines," Noonan says. "We can spot potential problem areas so we can fix them before the problem happens." He says the FLIR infrared looks for big variations in the temperature. "When it sees one - of 300 degrees variation or so - it knows something is cooking down there."

BPA flies one-third of its 15,000 circuit miles of grid each year with the FLIR system. But Noonan says, "Others now have use for the FLIR system. We can tell water temperatures for fish and wildlife. And we can videotape many things - rights-of-way, weather problems and other situations."

While the latest FLIR system is used in many other countries, Noonan says that BPA's new unit is the first one of its kind in operation in the U.S. It was just certified for BPA by the Federal Aviation Administration.



(Left to right) Vic Dehackbeil of field services and Roy Ellis of operations go through the steps to set up an AED on a mannequin.

Photos by Jack Odgaard

Lifesaving gets a boost at BPA

Emergency medical response at BPA is getting another boost this year. BPA has purchased 56 automated external defibrillators and placed them around the agency. AEDs are the latest medical equipment that can be used by any trained lay person to help save the life of a person who has a cardiac arrest.



BPA's Trish Muñoz, of the safety and occupational health group, has been coordinating BPA's newest lifesaving effort. "With AED, people who suffer cardiac arrest have a much better chance of survival," she says.

The American Heart Association says that

survival rates increased from 9 percent to 30 percent in cities that have cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training and where AEDs were available to first responders.



Kirsten Kler of fish and wildlife and Joe Ullman of engineering and technical services practice CPR.

AEDs save lives, says the heart association.

"More and more utilities are beginning to start programs such as we are doing," Muñoz says. Other industries are also adding AEDs and training to their CPR programs. The major airlines now carry AEDs and have trained flight staff members on their use.

Just what are AEDs? What do they do and how do they work?

The automated external defibrillator is a machine to help stop fibrillation of a heart that has suffered a cardiac arrest. It works by shocking the heart through the chest wall. That helps the organ resume normal beating and pumping.

First however, the AED's built-in computer assesses the patient's heart rhythm. It then judges if defibrillation is needed. If it is, the AED guides the user through the process with prompts. The last prompt is a hands-off the

(continued on back page)

What's all the fun about? . . . See the centerfold on a bright record of the Associates.



(Clockwise from top left) The Portland FOODTRAIN truck paid for by the 1991 Energizing the Community event; A tug of war at the annual picnic; Linda and Steve Hickok warm the floor at a dance; and Ed Sienkiewicz puts in his bid at an Energizing auction. See more on the Associates history inside.

Photos by Bob Heims, Sherry Lind and Ron Smith

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Women inspire youth for math and science

Between flying in outer space and climbing power poles, who knew math could be so much fun? Young women in grades 6 to 12 from all across Washington state find out during the annual Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) Conference series.

BPA women who volunteer play an important role in the success of the EYH conferences. The EYH takes place from March through May and has different venues across the state. BPA women from math and science fields help inspire the girls to look at some of the nontraditional career fields for women.

Several BPA volunteers have helped with the EYH program over the years.

Laura Demory, field construction coordinator in Vancouver, is among the most active BPA volunteers. Until last year, she worked at Ashe Substation.

She has been a member of the EYH planning committee since 1993 and recruited four other Ashe women to help over the years. They are Paula Golemon, Nina Gonzalez,

Juanita Jensen, and Ann Jurnberg.

Men aren't excluded as volunteers, and last year Gordon Alexander joined the Ashe volunteers. They worked at Washington State University's site in the Tri-Cities.

"I think this is a great program," Demory says. "I have summarized the student evaluations a couple of times, and it is really gratifying to get positive feedback from them. I believe it is really important to let these young women know they have options and give them an opportunity to find out about something new. They also need to see why it is important to take math and science classes."

Last year's special guest at the Tri-Cities was Bonnie Dunbar, an astronaut. "She is a wonderful role model," Demory says. "The students need to hear from young women like this why math and science are important."

Demory got involved in EYH through her membership in the Society of Women Engineers. "The EYH program here also has a lot of support from the Math, Engineering and Science Achievement (MESA) program at WSU," she says. About 40 percent of the students are Hispanic, many from migrant farm families. "Hopefully, they get a chance to see other things they can do with their lives," Demory says.

On the other side of the state, long-time BPA volunteer Kim Howell last year turned over the reigns to Kathi Youngs at Covington Substation. Howell had been a workshop presenter since 1992 at the EYH conference at Highline Community College in Des Moines, Wash.

"The workshops we put on are very interactive for the girls attending," she says. "We give an overview of apprenticeship positions in the BPA electrical crafts. We take voltmeters and have the kids read battery voltages. We take a thermovision gun so they can read surface temperatures of different objects."

Howell says, "The most fun they have is when they get to dress up in an array of uni-



Kathi Youngs, Covington substation operator, helps a student "try on" some of the equipment used in a transmission line maintenance job.

forms that people wear in the field. We take their picture with a Polaroid so they can take it home to share with their family."

Other women have helped Howell with the workshop over the years, including Youngs and Christine Lindner and Tiffany Carper. Four years ago the American Association of University Women started a conference at Green River Community College in Kent, Wash. Since that time, the Covington women have been doing both programs, normally held a week apart.

Last year the two were combined into one event held at Highline Community College. Dana McClain and Youngs led the BPA workshop called "Shocking Experiences."

Youngs describes the girls' reaction: "While dressing up in the gear and taking home a Polaroid is always popular, the enormous tools and conductor our linemen use also seem to catch the girls' attention."

— by Kyra Stewart of community relations in Seattle



Milt Olsen stands on the steps of a 9-passenger Super King Air that he flies for BPA. All of BPA's pilots received safe flying awards last year from the National Business Aviation Association. Olsen stood second on the list of pilots for most hours of safe flying. He had 22,902. He said he has more hours when his military flying time is added in.

Photo by Jack Odgaard

Circuit

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Don't break the chain! Please recycle the *Circuit* with other white paper after you read it.



Circuit is 20 years old

The cover of the February 1981 *BPA Circuit* had a photo of a huge windmill. The lead article, "MOD-2 reaps wind," was about the test runs of a small wind project near Goldendale, Wash.

Twenty years later, BPA issued a call for 1,000 megawatts of wind energy in the Northwest. The *Circuit* didn't run that article but the daily news media around the nation did.

BPA has gone through many changes in the past 20 years. To keep up with its fast-paced changes, BPA's communications have also changed.

We have added and dropped newsletters over the years - each with a specific purpose and scope. The current ones are now on line - *BPA This Week*, *Hot Issues*, the *Journal*, *Newsbreakers*. The *Circuit* is the last regular publication in print.

It's purpose and scope have changed to serve different needs. And it will likely change more in the future.

The *Circuit* was 20 years old in February. When the first edition rolled off the press, Sterling Munro was in his last month as administrator. Ed Mosey was the paper's first editor.

The birth of a BPA employee newsletter was timely for a number of reasons. The *Watts News*, produced by the Northwest Federal Employees Association, had served as an

unofficial newsletter for BPA employees since its start in World War II. BPA was then part of the Department of Interior and had close ties with other Interior agencies and employees who were also Associates members.

Even before that, in 1939, the Bonneville Project Associates produced three issues of the *Spark*.

BPA became a part of the new Department of Energy in 1977. And in late 1980, Congress passed the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act that changed how BPA would operate in the future.

Thus the *Circuit* began as "an internal and external newspaper containing information on the policies, activities, and people of ... BPA." As computers brought

more speed to BPA's business communicating, the *Circuit* has focused more on BPA work groups, its people and community service.

For a look back at employee activities and other changes over the years, see the centerfold feature in this edition. The 63-year history of the Associates chronicles many of the social and cultural events of the times.

— Jack Odgaard, editor



Five of the 11 editors of the BPA *Circuit* are still at BPA, and four in the communications group. (Left to right) Ian Templeton previous editor; Lynn Baker, the third editor back in 1982; current editor Jack Odgaard; and Ed Mosey, the first editor in 1981-82. The fifth editor, Gene Tollefson, works in Shared Services.

Photo by Taro O'Sullivan

Calling the Aug. 10, 1996, outage a wake-up call would be like saying Shaquille O'Neal is a big man – an understatement for sure. Yet for many in BPA, including those working in its vegetation management program, that's exactly what the 1996 outage was – a wake-up call.

"The West Coast outage pointed out the need to adequately fund and support right-of-way vegetation programs," says Tom Murphy, natural resource specialist at Spokane. "We now have more attention paid to vegetation management and increased accountability."

To guide BPA's specialists and inform the public of the agency's vegetation management practices, BPA completed an environmental impact statement (EIS) last year. "This will state what methods

we're going to use and clearly defines what's in our toolbox," says Debbie Hollen, the lead natural resource specialist at Vancouver.

The new EIS replaced an outdated 1983 version and BPA mailed it to about 600 interest groups for input. It was finalized last August.

According to Hollen, a primary objective in the EIS is a shift from a traditional cyclical management of rights-of-way. Now BPA wants to create low-growing stable plant communities that require less maintenance. So the agency would protect such species as salal,

the specialists must be conscious of any endangered species in the area and mitigate any environmental impacts. BPA uses herbicides as part of this balancing act.

Herbicides are cost-effective growth deterrents, especially on species such as alder or maple that will sprout new growth if not treated after cutting. "We use herbicides wisely and have to be conscious of protecting stream



(Top, left to right) Bill Erickson, Tom Murphy and Mark Newbill check field maps along a BPA transmission line corridor. (Bottom) Natural resource specialists Libby Johnson and Joe Johnson discuss right-of-way vegetation examples under a BPA power line.

Photos by Bob Heims

Vegetation management gets new impetus and approach



BPA's team of natural resources specialists help keep 15,000 miles of right-of-way clear of obstructions. Pictured are (left to right): Bill Erickson from Walla Walla, Libby Johnson from The Dalles, Mark Newbill from Chemawa near Salem, James Jellison from Olympia, Don Atkinson from Snohomish, Debbie Hollen from Vancouver, Joe Johnson from Kalispell and Tom Murphy from Bell near Spokane.

Photo by Bob Heims

rhododendron, Oregon grape and sagebrush.

Jim Jellison, natural resource specialist at Olympia, has seen an increased emphasis on tree clearing to the edge of the right-of-way. "One of our goals is to eliminate fringe trees that have grown into the right-of-way through the years," he says.

In some places encroaching trees have narrowed the cleared right-of-way from 100 feet to 50 feet.

While fulfilling their mission of keeping rights-of-way clear,

habitats and buffers," says Jellison.

The agency's danger tree program has been ramped up also since the August 1996 scare. Danger trees are those located off the right-of-way that could cause problems. They might be dying or leaning trees, or trees where the soil has eroded at the base.

Bill Erickson, natural resource specialist at Walla Walla, adds that danger brush requires even more immediate attention. "Danger brush is in the right-of-way and a potential threat to the system. We must address it within 48 hours," he says.

With 15,000 circuit miles of right-of-way in seven states, BPA's natural resource specialists have their work cut out for them.

"They're a great group of people. They're technically competent and operate at the highest level," Hollen says.

— by Linda Anderson, writer for the Transmission Business Line

New EEO counselors help serve the field

In the past month, the Human Resources, Diversity and Equal Employment Opportunity (HRDE) office has put up posters for its new staff of equal employment counselors. Field folks may notice some names from around the region, including familiar faces in Transmission Business Line jobs.

The new EEO counselor team has changed from three full-time positions at headquarters to a mix of full-time and collateral counselors, with most of the latter in the field.

Terri Bull, equal employment specialist, says that years ago BPA used to have all collateral EEO counselors. That meant that people with other jobs served as counselors for up to 20 percent of their work time. "Then the regulations changed and we abolished the collateral positions and went to three full-time counselors on staff," Bull says.

Now the regulations have changed again and the group is using a combination of both full-time and collateral-duty counselors. "HRDE wants to provide

better service," Bull says, "especially in the field." So she said BPA ran an interest announcement and found four people especially qualified and able. BPA began orienting the field folks and moving them into their new duties last fall.

Under the new arrangement, Bull is a full time counselor at headquarters and Vickie Nuci is a full-time counselor at Ross. The four new collateral counselors are Jerry Liebrecht, chief substation operator at Olympia; Eric Cobb, substation operator at Snohomish; Morgan Colby, electrician at Covington; and Yvonne Coleman, employee development specialist in personnel services at Portland.

The *Circuit* asked these folks why they wanted to take on EEO duties as counselors.

Cobb said his first major when he started college was psychology. "I care about people and, when I think about helping the company, I want to help people – which is good for the company," he said. "It's an invaluable learning and growing experience for me."

Coleman said she has volunteered for a mediation group through the Federal Executive Board the past three years. "This is one mechanism to make the workplace a better place," she said. "I think when people are in conflict, instead of focusing on issues to make it better, we focus on them and us – on the past and the stress. So I did this to help people bridge the gap."

Colby said he sees EEO being "about people's differences and uniqueness. Those are what bring strength to any group, team or effort. Sometimes that uniqueness or the differences create misunderstandings," he said. "And being a counselor I can help people understand and resolve conflicts."



Equal Employment Opportunity counselors discuss the work of the four new collateral EEO counselors. (Top) Morgan Colby, new field collateral counselor, is an electrician at Covington; and Terri Bull is an equal employment specialist at Portland. (Bottom) Eric Cobb and Yvonne Coleman are new collateral EEO counselors. Cobb is a substation operator at Snohomish and Coleman is an employee development specialist in personnel services.

Photos by Jack Odgaard

All employees should have recently received a memo and an EEO poster that has the new counselors and their telephone numbers.

Associates' bright record tracks and helps BPA folks

From buying war bonds to holding blood drives, from giving cooking classes to hawking cookbooks, from raising funds for local charities to collecting aid for disaster victims, from holding dances to offering discount vacation trips, the Associates have come a long way in 63 years.

The employee non-profit group, informally known as the Associates, has seen many changes since 1938 – including its formal name. It was the Bonneville Project Associates, Inc., at its start. Then it was the Interior Associates in the late 1950s. Since the late 1980s, it has been the Northwest Federal Employees Association, Inc. Each name change also meant a broader membership field.

The Associates owes its start to the federal ban on spending for employee social or community events. Some project folks got together in 1938 and formed the nonprofit group to support employee programs and hold events in the Portland/Vancouver area.

When the Bonneville Power Administration was finally set up in the Interior Department, people from other agencies joined the group. It was aptly renamed the Interior Associates with members from BPA, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Geological Survey and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

BPA still formed the bulk of the group and many Associates efforts were closely tied to BPA. A 1946 history reported the support for the Associates from Paul Raver, BPA's second administrator, who attended the group's

business meetings. "To Dr. Raver goes the credit for having somehow found the time to attend upon several occasions," wrote Dan Mater, an employee.

BPA later moved to the Department of Energy when Congress created it in 1977. That led to the group's last name change –

although a decade later. The membership field then added the National Marine Fisheries Service in the Dept. of Commerce, other Interior offices and the Pacific Northwest Federal Credit Union. In time, a BPA group formed an Associates chapter at Spokane.

During the World War II years, the Associates supported numerous civic efforts. Many people volunteered for USO work. The group held salvage drives and people sent packages and cards to servicemen overseas at Christmas. Hundreds planted victory gardens.

Some programs have continued for six decades and more. Others

bility depends on member interest and the support of BPA executives.

Dances were the first social events by the Associates. Sponsoring sports teams, a concession program, help for people who suffered misfortunes and adult education were among the early efforts. The group began a practice of sending flowers to ill and injured members and to those who had a death in the family.

For several years in the 1940s, the Associates sponsored a BPA employees float in the Portland Rose Festival Parade. The 1947 float used 50,000

flowers of four types in red, white and blue, and won the sweepstakes trophy. The total cost for the 1946 float was \$2,268.62, according to Dan Mater's report. "Most of the money to pay for the float was raised by social activities," it said.

Until the mid-1980s, the Associates provided roses to greet visitors during the Rose Festival. BPA employees brought in nearly 10,000 rose buds and volunteers gave roses to dignitaries and crews of the U.S. Navy and other ships tied up in port for the event.

In its first 50 years, the Associates held one or two dinner dances each year. The 1984 spring dance was held with a

new program to benefit a single nonprofit group. In 1985 the event expanded and became known as Energizing the Community. A different charity each year benefited from the auctions, sales of flowers and other items during the year, prize raffles, and food and entertainment. The

last of nine Energizing events took place in 1992. Together they raised more than \$100,000 for charities.

An annual summer picnic has been held most years since the early 1940s. Administrators and other top officials have attended for the fun and food with families and

friends from work. Work and family teams compete in tugs of war, softball games, balloon tosses and egg races.

The picnics moved to different places – Oaks Park on the Willamette River in Portland, Lake Merwin on the Lewis River,



The Associates 1947 float in Portland's Rose Festival parade won the Sweepstakes trophy that year.

BPA File photo



Energizing the Community events raised well over \$100,000 for local charities in nine years. (Clockwise, from top left) Then-Administrator Peter Johnson played a piano duet with Shirley Melton at the first Energizing event in 1984. Volunteers Jan Yocum (left) and Dana Libonati and Barb Francescon (right) present a check to Beverly Chappell and Patrick Richardson of the Dougy Center in 1988. Folks had fun at the auction and dinner where Gary Ragsdale (62) raises a bid. And an occasional celebrity showed up – such as Bud Clark (right), then mayor of Portland, talking with Marv Klinger.

Photos by Nick Christmas and Sherry Lind

were major events in the past but died out when interest waned. Programs have come and gone over the years. For most, the success and dura-

Alderbrook Farm near Battle Ground, Wash., and others.

Picnic participation peaked in the 1980s. Administrator Peter Johnson and Deputy Bob Ratcliffe took turns working the beer tap in 1985. Administrator Jim Jura sat in the dunk tank in 1986 to raise funds for a charity. More than 1,800 BPA people and family members attended that year.

The regular blood drives at Vancouver and Portland make BPA one of the largest corporate blood suppliers for the American Red Cross. This Associates program has garnered other awards and civic honors for BPA.

Each year the Associates put up holiday giving trees at Portland and Ross. The Multnomah and Clark county Children Services Departments give names of foster children. BPA employees can take tags to buy gifts for those needy children.

Last year the Associates collected more than 400 pairs of glasses, cases and hearing aids for the Lions program to help needy nations. And the group has donated medical equipment that it loans to members.

The Associates have sponsored numerous sports teams over the years. The Hydromets, Electric Shorts and other softball teams have won city and league championships. Other sports backed by the Associates are bowling, women's soccer, marksmanship, skiing and running.

Associates teams have competed in the Hood-to-Coast Run and the Bank Stair Run, often to raise funds for charities. For many years the Associates have sponsored the 21st mile aid station in the Portland Marathon. Volunteers work at the station that each year

501 (c) 3 group was set up for charitable and educational purposes. It serves as a charitable arm of the Associates.

The foundation has awarded tens of thousands of dollars in college scholarships to the children of members. In 2000 it awarded eight scholarships worth \$6,550. It also provides scholarships to users of the Holladay Child Care Center who are unable to meet the daycare center costs.

The foundation raised more than \$2,800 to help victims and their families after the Oklahoma City bombing in 1995. Other caring programs include emergency food and clothing drives for victims of natural disasters and canned food drives during the year that collect more than 1,600 pounds of food for needy groups.

"These efforts at BPA throughout the year wouldn't happen without the sponsorship and volunteers from the Associates," says Nancy Mabe, past president of the group. "The Associates' many programs also help employee morale and have done a lot for BPA's civic recognition over the years."

Mabe says, "All the officers who have served the Associates join me in saying 'Thank you!'

Annual picnics have included swimming at Lake Merwin, organized balloon tosses, softball games and other friendly contests. A special attraction draws more interest, such as when then-Administrator Jim Jura sat in the dunk tank at the 1986 outing.

Photos by Nick Christmas and Sherry Lind

to all our volunteers over the years. We hope others who enjoy the programs and gain from the Associates efforts appreciate the volunteers. Without them, we wouldn't have the community events or programs for people to enjoy."

—by Nancy C. Mabe, engineering and technical services, and Jack Odgaard, communications



Be nice to me.
I gave blood
today.

DSC-003

American
Red Cross

The Associates have been holding blood drives at Portland and Vancouver for the American Red Cross since before World War II. From 1980 through 2000 alone, donors at Portland alone gave 7,763 pints of whole blood – nearly 370-units per year average. BPA has received honors from the Red Cross for the drives. Several employees also donate platelets at the Red Cross. In a letter to blood drive coordinator Adele Steinwinder in January, the chief executive officer of Pacific Northwest Blood Services, Allan Ross, wrote "to thank you and the Northwest Federal Employees Association for all your wonderful support of the American Red Cross over the years."

Photos by Bob Heims

earns an award and recognition for BPA as one of the best of the marathon.

In the early years Associates members were very interested in being able to buy things for less. So the Associates compiled a directory of stores that offered savings to members. The group bought goods at discount and set up a concession. Volunteers for years have staffed the concession where members could save on things from film developing, to small appliances, to clothing items with the BPA logo.

A new program since 1991 is the holiday craft bazaars at BPA headquarters. Employees and others can bring in their crafts and wares to sell during a few days before the holidays.

The Associates sponsor other lobby sales during the year. Proceeds from book sales, candy and nuts, roses, Entertainment books and other items help support the group's programs. Other services include discounted tickets for entertainment and sports events.

In 1994 members got Internal Revenue status for the Associates Foundation. The new



Current events the Associates now sponsor include popular discount book sales at headquarters and the holiday crafts bazaars. Regular caring and sharing events include the annual giving tree for foster children and food drives for agencies that help the needy.

Photos by Jack Odgaard



Nelly Leap and her mother, Penka Petrova, visited with tournament hostess Nesibe Musevitoğlu in the Fenerbahcha Sports Club.

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communist domination, it was a resort destination for those who could afford it in the Soviet bloc and for western Europeans.

The communist party had confiscated the Bulgarian royal summer palace, Evksinograd. Only politburo members and guests could vacation there or attend social functions.

Varna's changes

The gleaming sandy beaches and the blue water of the summer resorts at Golden Sands and Albena still attract vacationers. Now they come from Germany, Poland, Russia, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Scandinavian countries.

During the communist era, Nikita Krushchev made Varna a "window" between the East and West. The Soviets built a large industrial base there. It had modern shipyards, electrical appliance and engine manufacturing and many other industrial plants.

And Varna held many international cultural events during the summer season. The city frequently hosted the International Ballet Competition as well as the International Red Cross Film Festival.

So Varna did not have some of the problems that other cities in the Soviet Union had over the years. With Bulgaria's agrarian background, we didn't have the food shortages. And from 1949 to 1956, the Soviets even changed the name of Varna to Stalin.

I first became a friend with Alex in 1976 when I worked as a French interpreter for the Red Cross Film festival. Alex was then a sports journalist and an amateur table tennis player.

During our trip Sam, Alex and Ivan visited the tennis courts of the Golden Sands Resort, 10 miles north of Varna. The impressive hotels, sports facilities and entertainment places still function. But Varna is no longer the international cultural center and tourist destination it once was.

When communism collapsed in 1989, the processes of democracy and capitalism started. But, as in many post-Soviet countries, the lure of fast cash has seemed to outweigh sensible and sustainable economic development.



Lunch with Bulgarian table tennis players in Istanbul, overlooking the Sea of Marmara.

On this trip back to my homeland, I saw much cultural change. Varna was so different from the way it was in 1982 when I left for the United States with my American husband, Donald. Many commercial plants are closed. Today only 16 percent of industry is functioning and that has led to 30 percent unemployment.

I met with some of my classmates from the engineering institute I had attended. Only male engineers are now holding professional engineering jobs. Female engineers are compelled to enlarge their qualifications. They have to take a second degree in economics or business to be able to compete.

Even the look of the city is different. Freedom has brought some contradictory changes. The big department stores and state offices on the main boulevard, Tsar Boris I, are gone. They have been replaced by small clothing shops, fast food restaurants and other franchise stores. Of course, you can't miss the colorful McDonald's arches.

The city center is still attractive, with its wide-open areas paved with white marble. But stray dogs prowl the muddy suburbs where unsmiling residents struggle to make ends meet.

Yet the younger generation is full of vigor and ambition. Many bright high school graduates win international contests and get into prestigious universities abroad, including Harvard, Stanford and Yale. Unlike in the recent past, Bulgarians today have freedom to travel abroad.

I had long dreamed of visiting Turkey. During the Iron Curtain years we could not travel there, but last fall my dream came true. We were invited by the Bulgarian table tennis team to join their trip to Istanbul. We left Varna by bus at 9 p.m. and arrived in Istanbul nine hours later.

Istanbul's two cities

Istanbul can be a shock. It is both European and Asian. It is the only city in the world to have been capital to consecutive Christian and Islamic empires. Both legacies are still much in evidence.

You can especially see this in the cultural center of the city where the great edifices of Aya Sofia and Sultan Ahmet Camii glower at each other across a small park. Aya Sofia is a monumental sixth century Byzantine Christian church that was converted to a mosque in 1435 after the Ottoman invasion. Sultan Ahmet Camii is the Blue Mosque built by the Turks in the fifteen century.

The Bosphorous Channel that connects the Black Sea and the Sea of Marmara divides Istanbul. This narrow strait of bright blue water separates Europe from Asia. We stayed in the Harem Hotel on the Asian side. It has a beautiful view of the Marmara Sea.

Istanbul's population is 12 million and the city's traffic is extremely congested. We were told that visiting the city alone could be dangerous. Most of the Muslim population does not speak English.

We spent the first two days in the Fenerbahcha Sport Club where the table tennis tourna-



The Varna Naval Museum has a bust of Bulgaria's national hero, Georgy Georgiev, who set a world record sailing around the world. Also on display is a model of his 27-foot sailboat, the Cor Caroli.



Orthodox cathedral in Varna.

ment was taking place. The city government of Istanbul opened this wonderful event. A prominent local patron, Nesibe Musevitoglu, hosted the event.

More tennis players arrived the second day from Azerbaijan, Georgia and Ukraine to join the tournament. Sam played two very hard matches with the best Azerbaijan player.

On our third day in Turkey, a group of players took us to the European side of Istanbul. In the morning we visited the Sultan's Palace. The Topkapi Palace is a vast, fifteenth century royal mansion arranged around cool courtyards and gardens. We saw the throne room, kitchens and the harem area.

(Continued on back page)

Uncle is
national,
naval
hero



Nelly Leap's uncle was the first Bulgarian to sail solo around the world and is a national hero in his homeland. On Dec. 20, 1977, Capt. Georgy Georgiev set a new world record when he sailed into Havana in his 27-foot sailboat, Cor Caroli. He had sailed alone around the earth in 210 days and six hours.

The time would stand in the Guinness Book of World Records until 1984. Even then, when a larger yacht beat his time, Georgiv's record would stand for boats in his class size to the present day.

Capt. Georgiv received his nation's highest honor - National Hero of Bulgaria. Leap shares the pride that all of her country has for her mother's brother.

Georgiv was 47 when he broke the world record. He died three years later in Russia, reportedly of a heart attack. Leap and her parents heard of his death from a British Broadcasting Company news report in 1980. They were in Libya at the time where Leap's father was working as a doctor.

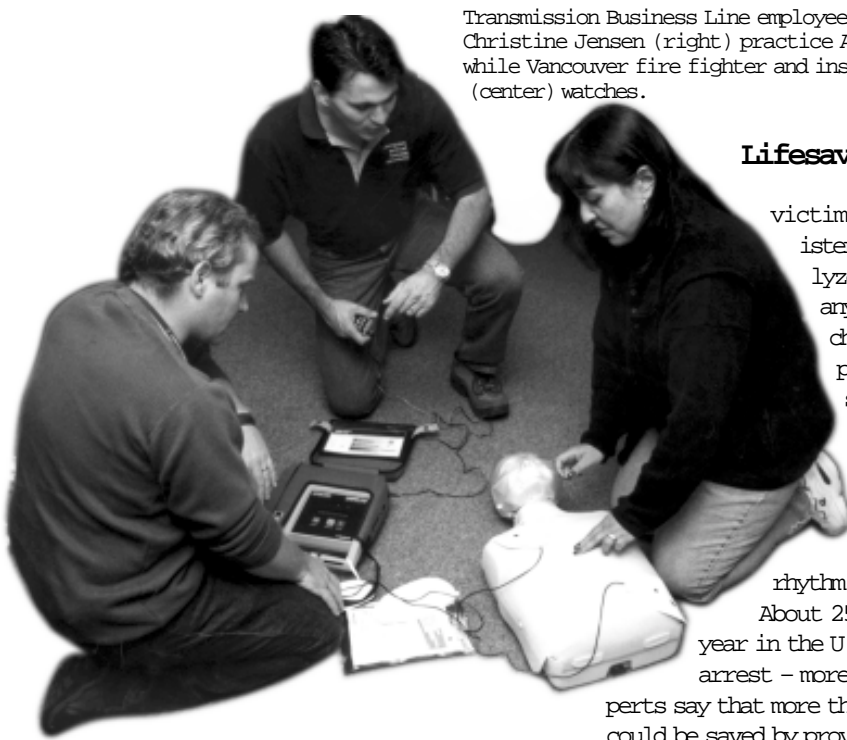
Georgiv is honored today by a memorial at the Varna marine and naval academy. The Varna Naval Museum has a bust of the famous captain and a model of his sailing boat. The Varna yacht club presents an award, The Golden Globe of Cor Caroli, to the yachtsman of the year at an annual celebration. And Bulgaria has a 100,000-ton ship named in his honor.

Early Presidents of the Associates —



At the 1968 annual meeting, 24 of the 28 living presidents of the Associates posed for a group photo. (Left to right) Charles Slatt, 1942; Howard Strawn, 1943; John Bishop, 1952; Gladys Fletcher, 1963; Richard Nyland, 1967; Elmer Buehler, 1956; Don Naylor, 1947; Louis Cowan, 1961; William Striplin, 1966; June Fung, 1968; Cotton "Bill" Waugh, 1950; Marshall Shelton, 1965; Henry Bushman, 1962; Robert Stevens, 1958; James McKinley, 1954; Ruth Carr, 1959; Earl Hall, 1964; Ray Allen, 1948; Robert Gillespie, 1955; Norman Holt, 1957; Bert Taylor, 1953; Beulah Cowan, 1939; Jack Jones, 1952; Norman Lamb, 1960. Two men split the office in 1950 and 1952 due to Korean War military call-ups.

See the history of the Associates with photos old and new on pages 4-5.



Transmission Business Line employees David Osier (left) and Christine Jensen (right) practice AED use on a mannequin while Vancouver fire fighter and instructor David Sturbelle (center) watches.

Lifesaving — (Continued from p. 1)

victim and the AED then administers a shock. It then analyzes the effect and prompts any further steps. The chance of survival for a person who suffers a sudden cardiac arrest decreases by 7 to 10 percent for each minute that passes without defibrillation. AEDs can restore a normal heart rhythm in such victims.

About 250,000 people die each year in the U.S. from sudden cardiac arrest — more than 600 per day. Experts say that more than 20,000 lives a year could be saved by providing greater access to AEDs. The government is now working on steps for placing AEDs in federal buildings.

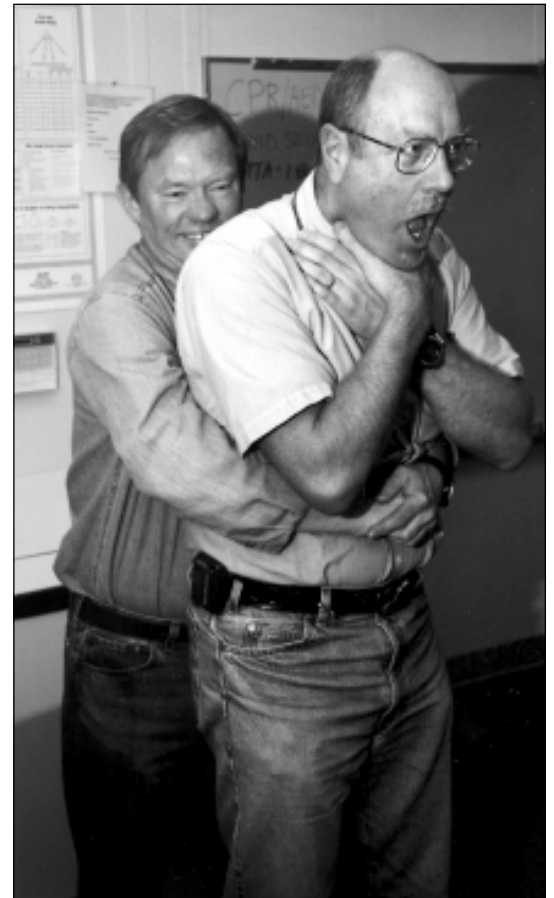
But BPA isn't waiting for the federal program. Last fall BPA began adding AED training to all its CPR courses. The two go hand in hand. CPR provides oxygen-rich blood to the brain before an AED can be used. And heart attacks that don't involve fibrillation can't be treated with the AED, so the CPR is critical.

The training classes explain the AED operation and show people how to hook up and use the machines. The safety office has CPR-AED classes scheduled at Ross and headquarters during March. Employees who are interested should check the training schedule or contact Trish Muñoz at 360-418-2383.

Muñoz says that BPA may get more AEDs in the future, but the initial plan is directed at electrical workers, remote areas and sites with larger populations. An AED has been placed with each electrician crew, transmission line crew and carpenter crew.

Each of BPA's two airplanes will have an AED on board. One will also be located at the Celilo Converter Station, one at Garrison Substation and one at the Munro Control Center. Two AEDs will be at the Ross Complex — one near the guard station in the Dittmer west lobby and one assigned to the nurse. The headquarters lobby guard desk will also have an AED.

Employees at Portland and Vancouver should note that the guards cannot leave their posts, so they can't deliver the AEDs. This is an employee access program, which means that any employee can grab the AED and take it to the location of the emergency. Once there though, only a trained person should use the AED.



Engineer Dave Stefonek uses the Heimlich maneuver on fellow engineer Jon French who feigns choking on food.

Photos by Jack Odgaard

Return to Black Sea (Continued from p. 7)

In the afternoon, four of us visited the Kapalicharshi. Built in 1461, it is the largest covered bazaar in the world. We bought Turkish delights — a treat made of halva and raisins. We were all shopping together when Sam and a Turkish player, Ahmed, suddenly disappeared.

My mother and I were alone in the dark narrow back streets called "sukak." We waited and waited, realizing that we were completely lost. As we decided to try to find a taxi to take us back to the hotel, Sam and Ahmed returned. Sam had purchased a gorgeous gold and sapphire ring as a present for his wife. He had bargained and got a good deal.

The visit to my homeland was wonderful. Seeing the beauty of exotic Istanbul was exciting. The Turkish people often charmed us with their warmth. And I was surprised to find that so many Turkish words are part of the Bulgarian language.

I wish I could spend at least three months in Istanbul and I plan to go back soon. I can recommend a trip like ours to anyone who wants to see two truly ancient and beautiful lands.

—by Nelly Leap of energy efficiency

Retirements

Larry W. Hugen, Heavy Mobile Equipment Mechanic, Transmission Field Services, retired Jan. 31, 2001 with 15 years of service.

Michael P. Adams, Employee Accounts Specialist, Business Solutions Project, retired Feb. 2 with 35 years service.

John H. Roberts, Generation Dispatcher, Dittmer Dispatch, retired March 3 with 36 years service.

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